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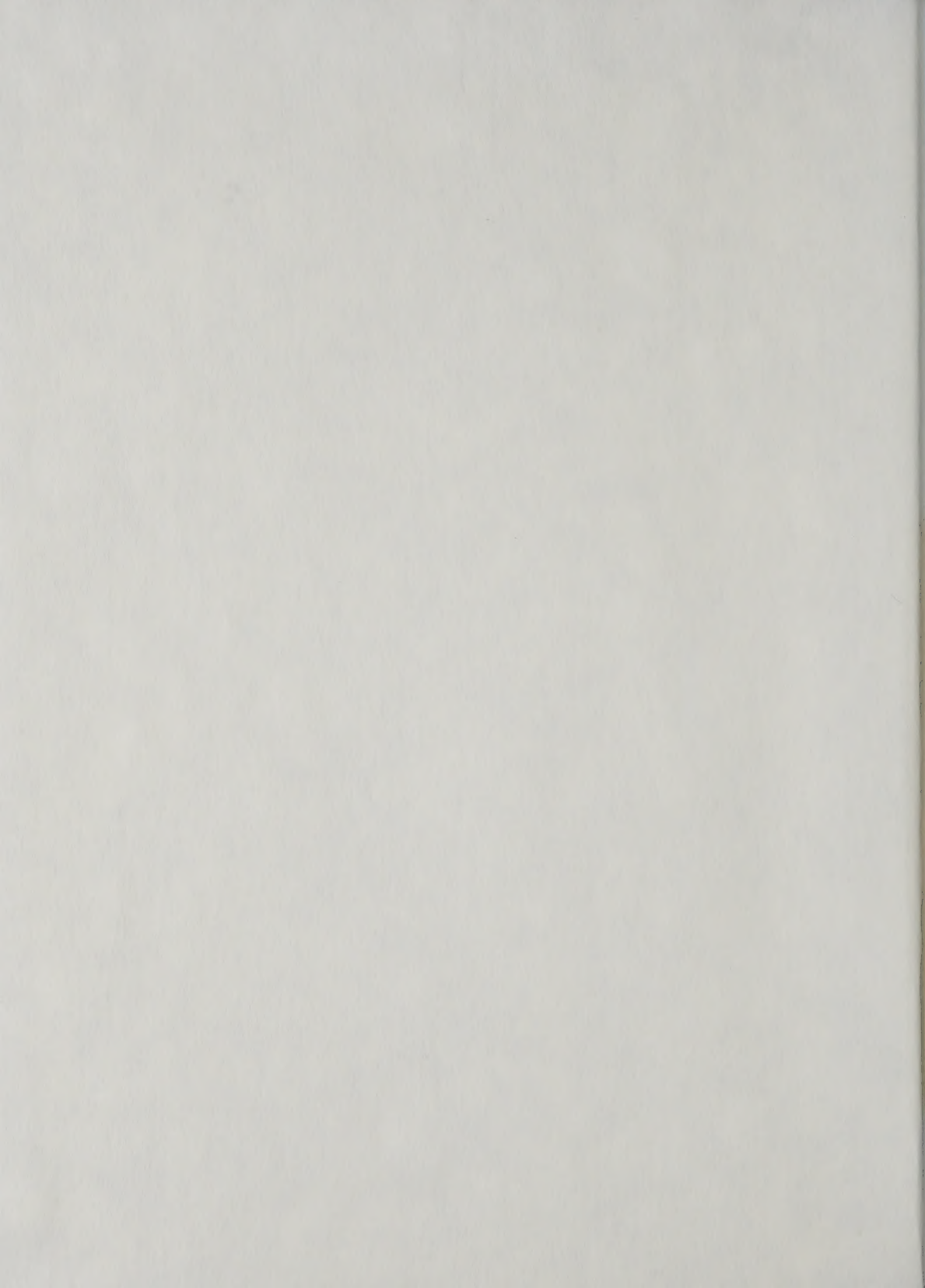
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Historical Sketch  
of  
St. Peter's  
Evangelical Lutheran Church  
near  
Webster, Ohio.

by  
Lewis Grote.

\*\*\*\*\*

1954

And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this  
rock I will build my church, and the powers  
of death shall not prevail against it.

Matthew 16:18

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# ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

I am indeed,

grateful to, Mrs. Gertrude Henne Ortlepp  
and Mr. Albert Schellhase for their trans-  
lations of the old German records.

Mr. Harry Fennig and Mrs. Marie Schroeder,  
grandson and granddaughter of Rev. Philip  
Locker, for their information about him  
and the use of his old record book.

## Source information:

Printed minutes of the Miami Synod,  
Wittenberg College Library, Springfield,  
Ohio.

Pioneer History of Wayne Township, 1901.  
By Rev. Samuel Long.

Record books of St. Peter's Evangelical  
Lutheran Church, near Webster, Ohio.

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Allen County Public Library  
Ft. Wayne, Indiana



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1 .

In the year 1850, a settlement of pioneer Germans organized and built St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church, in section 32, Wayne Township, near Webster, Ohio. In reflecting upon the history of St. Peters Church it is necessary to take the reader back to the first settlers and their arrival in Wayne Township. These reflections will lead us through an interesting formation of the community in which the church was located, its personnel and the possible reasons for its organization.

On January 3, 1809, the General Assembly of Ohio, created the County of Darke from territory then belonging to Miami County. It was not until the first Monday of June, 1817, that the first County Commissioners met in Greenville, Ohio and organized county government. At first the entire county was included in Greenville Township, but on July 3, 1817, two new townships were formed, Twin on the south and Wayne on the north. The name Wayne was suggested by the prominent position occupied by General Anthony Wayne.

The first settler to arrive in Wayne Township and in the vicinity of St. Peter's Church was Jacob Carlock, 1817, who entered land and made a clearing, where, in 1835, the village of Webster was laid out. His name was never associated with the church. History leaves us with an interim of a number of years without an account of any settlement in this locality. It is quite probable that there were, but no record has been made.

It is here where we start on a part of our history, so very interesting, that of listing the pioneer German families who later made up the Lutheran congregation that received the name, St. Peter. This roster of the community will give you a closer acquaintance with those men and women of the noblest and most courageous period in pioneer church's history, for theirs was of an indomitable spirit.

Two names associated with the early life of the church were, Wolfe and Fiebiger, Joseph Wolfe was an early German immigrant settler and was one of the early arrivals. He was a coverlet weaver by trade. His son, Epharim Wolfe, was a member of the second confirmation class, held April 11, 1852, Easter Sunday. Fridrich Wilhelm Fiebiger owned land adjacent to Wolfe, and was also a German weaver. Mr. Fiebiger served the congregation many years as church secretary.

John Adam Kleinschmidt, was a German pioneer owning land near Wolfe and Fiebiger. Mr. Kleinschmidt is credited as being probably the first German immigrant in Wayne Township, coming in, in 1830 or shortly after.

During a time of high water, a daughter, in an attempt to cross Stillwater on a foot-log fell into the swollen stream and was drowned. Her body was the first one buried in the Lutheran (Frieden's) cemetery south of Bloomers. Others in the family were, J. C., an early harness dealer in Versailles; Mrs. Engelken, John and Samuel.

During the year 1833, two more families appeared in the settlement, Rohr and Jacobi. George Fridrich Rohr was one of the first church officers.

After establishing a home, William Jacobi, later operated a saw mill, and enterprise most desirable in any pioneer community.

Three years later, 1836, the names of Klipstine, Kelch and Seibt were additions, locating on farms north east of the site of Webster, Ohio. Adam Klipstine, at whose home St. Peter's congregation was organized, was from Prussia. His native home was near Leipsic. William Klipstine, a son, stated that he arrived in time to help with the log-rolling. He also was one of the 49'ers seeking gold in California. Johann Adam Kelch too, was a 49'er and made the trip to California in company with William Klipstine. Kelch was another of these sturdy pioneer Germans who settled on the east border of what was later known as the "Dutch Roost". Frederick Traugott Seibt, was born in Bautzen, Saxony, Germany, in 1804, and came to America in 1830. He served eighteen months in the Hudson Bay Company and after leaving the company, he traveled through the country fixing clocks and watches and while in this business he met Miss. Erdmute Schmidt. They fell in love and were married in 1836. Mr. Seibt and his bride moved to Wayne Township, settling at Webster and was the pioneer merchant at that place. Upon his death October 14, 1874, his son Adolph took over the business.

Next we have the name of Trittschuh, father of Henry Trittschuh, the old cooper of Versailles, and was of the early arrivals. He too, owned land on the border of the "Dutch Roost." Among the first names recorded of the early membership of the church, appears Wilhelm Trittschuh and Fredrich Trittschuh.

Among the names of the committee to organize St. Peter's Congregation we find George Christoph Lowig, known today as Labig. We notice on the old church record books that in later years, there too, the spelling was changed. The Lowig (Labig) family came from Germany in 1838, and settled in the central part of the settlement.



The settlement also had a carpenter, in the person of Robert Kinney, a man active in church and school. Another tradesman was William Apple, the blacksmith, and at this period of time no community was complete without the blacksmith. In this part of the settlement were to be found also, John W. and George Apple. John W. moved here from Montgomery County, Ohio. Two other men, Jacob Rhoades and David Rhoades, both Lutherans, were natives of Pennsylvania before coming to Darke County, Ohio. David was a later arrival, but in time for log-rolling and much hard labor clearing land for farming.

The year 1846 marks the arrival of George F. Sheffel and his brother E. F. Sheffel, who were followed by Herman Seifert in 1847. The Peschke family arrived in 1849, one year before St. Peter's congregation was organized. Of the Peschke family, the church's old record book gives us the names of Carl and William. The farm homestead was located south of the site of Webster.. Just on south of the Peschke farm, Peter Masner settled. We remember Peter Masner so well, because of the, German style, neck beard he wore. Adjoining Masner, on the south, was Phillip Schmidt. A daughter of Mr. Schmidt lives in the north part of Darke County, Ohio, just west of North Dayton. The daughter, Mrs. Anna Schmidt Breymire tells how, as a girl, she and her father's family on Sunday morning, to attend services at St. Peter's, would start walking, a distance of about three miles, and as they passed the homes of Masner, Peschke, Tritt-schuh and many other homes, the families would join them on this foot journey to church, arriving there, a large band of worshippers. At this early period of history, church attendance was good.

Another family, Froebe, was prominent in the settlement, two sons, Phillip and Henry were soldiers in the war with Mexico, and, Frederic and Phillip in the Civil War. (1862-1865) (St. Peter's Church also, had her soldier sons.)

Adam Heil (now spelled Hile) was a German immigrant and a successful farmer. He had a son and daughter, Isaac and Elizabeth. On a farm adjoining him on the west was his brother Johan Heil, who arrived in 1844. His children were Henry and Lavina.

Next we have Michael Metzcar, from Wertemburg, Germany, described as a sort of blustering, industrious old German who in his life time acquired considerable wealth. His daughter married Fred Frobe. Metzcar settled on the north border, near Jacksonville, (now Versailles,) Ohio.



Although not listing their arrival dates in the settlement the old church records reveal the family names of; Agne, Fisher, Haach, and Steifel, all loyal members of St. Peter's Church, and of their posterity, most of them Lutherans today.

These thrifty people, who came from the land of Luther, were not adventurers, but men and women who sought escape from conditions not satisfactory to them and an opportunity to live and work and worship as a free God-fearing folk. In this their land of adoption they had found just that and were truly thankful.

These Germans were mainly Lutherans and were a part of Friedens Lutheran Church, near Bloomers, Miami County, Ohio. Friedens, organized in 1833, was three and a half miles east of the site of St. Peter's.

This meant that to organize and build a new church with Friedens only three and one half miles away from the proposed new church. Distance, at this time in our history, however short, meant a lot to one who traveled on foot, and most of the travel was on foot or horseback. Then too, Versailles Lutherans were without a church and the three and one half extra miles to Friedens would mean a lot to them, and they naturally were ready for the new church home the new congregation would provide for them.

There is no record left us, that we today, can know all and what events led to their decision to organize and build St. Peter's Church. Nevertheless, we shall speculate thus; that they concluded that there were enough Lutherans left in the vicinity of Friedens church to carry on with a sizeable congregation, and that their own settlement was large enough to support another church, and with the travel problem, it was time to build a new church among them in their community.

Believing that our speculative theory being mainly correct, we shall now take you to the home of Adam Klipstine, where, the old church record tells us that on March 10, 1850, members of St. Peter's congregation met to organize a new congregation and elected the following committee:

John Adam Kleinschmidt, Fridrich Traugott Seibt,  
George Christoph Lowig, (Labig) Fridrich Christoph Hach, (Haach)  
and Fridrich Wilhelm Fiebiger, Secretary.

After the adjournment, the newly elected committee met again this same day. This meeting convened in the house of F. W. Fiebiger, secretary, for the purpose of making a subscription list for a new church building. It is regrettable that no record was made of this subscription list as it would be of much interest today.

Where to build the church? We believe two basic facts, more than any other, prompted their decision. First; to best serve the congregation they would build it near the central part of the settlement, and in that way the walking distance would be in fairness to all. Second; the gift of a building site would be an inducement and this is attested to by the entry on the church book stating that Mr. Friedrich Traugott Seibt donated free gratis, one and one half acres of land for a church and a cemetery. Mr. Seibt and his wife Christina executed a deed to, St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Congregation, February 28, 1850, which was not recorded until April 16, 1851. The Darke County Recorders Office, record of deeds, Volume U-1 page 354, disclose the contents of this deed. Along with the description of the real estate, it also states, for and in consideration of \$10.00, and, since the church record states Mr. Seibt donated free gratis, this one and one half acre, we believe the probable reason for this \$10.00 stipulation is, that it would put a definite value on the gift.

May 9, 1850, (Ascension Day) the congregation met in the house of F. W. Fiebiger and at the direction of the committee the following were made church officers; George Friedrich Rohr, Elder for three years; Friedrich Traugott Seibt, Elder for two years; John Adam Kleinschmidt, Elder for one year; Friedrich Wilhelm Fiebiger, Secretary for two years; Conrad Agne, Deacon for two years; Adolph Christoph Stiefel, Deacon for one year. With a deep feeling of accomplishment, the secretary writes; 1850, in the year of our Lord and Savior a German Lutheran Church and Congregation was organized. This church received the name St. Peter's, with no reason given for the choice.

It would be of great interest to us today if the plans and building progress with cost would have been entered on the church journal. Since this was not done, we again, will have to speculate. At this early period of history the erection of buildings were neighborhood affairs and we would believe this church to be no exception, especially, in this community of hardy German pioneers. In all probability this log-Tabernacle in which they would worship God was completed before the end of the year 1850.

The congregation adopted a constitution that was the usual one adopted by Lutheran churches, with few exceptions. One article of St. Peter's constitution sets forth that it would be an "independant" congregation, meaning that it would not affiliate with any Synod, but would remain free to call pastors from any Lutheran Synod.

The first pastor called to serve St. Peter's was, Philip Locker, of the Miami Synod. This Synod was a member of the General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church. He served from organization to March 1853. His first formal call was made March 30, 1851, and the second March 28, 1852. Each call was for one year. Rev. Locker was a resident of Darke County at that time. He owned his own home and lived in Clapboard Town (Wakefield) three miles north of Greenville, near the Darke County Childrens Home, from November, 1847 to October, 1857. Locker was a circuit riding pastor, traveling almost exclusively on horseback. His synodical report for the year 1850, states that he served four congregations and two preaching stations that year. In 1857 he removed to Indiana where he served churches in and around Salamonina until his death in 1881. He was buried in the State Line Lutheran Cemetery three miles south and two miles east of New Corydon, Indiana.

The church constitution required, at least, two Communion services each year. The first Communion was celebrated April 14, 1850. Thirty men and twenty women partook, a total of fifty persons. The second was celebrated November 1, 1850. Fifty-six partook.

The first baptism was recorded by Pastor Locker as of July 12, 1850.

Rev. Locker's first funeral service in St. Peter's Congregation was for Mrs. Martha Catherine Scheffel, March 1850. This was the first burial in the cemetery beside the church. This cemetery, like most early Lutheran cemeteries, was a part of the church lot.

The first wedding in the congregation was solemnized by Rev. Locker, with George Frederick Scheffel being wedded to Barbara Taylor, September, 1850. The first wife of Mr. Scheffel had passed to her reward in March of that year. Miss. Taylor becoming his second wife.

The year 1851, brought one confirmand into the year old congregation. Maria Barbara Scheffel receiving the rite from her pastor, Philip Locker.

April 11, 1852, Easter Sunday, Pastor Locker had the pleasure of confirming the following class; Augusta Paulina Granold, Charlotte Albertine Fiebiger, Simon Kleinschmidt, Wilhelm Trittschuh, Heinrich Kellig and Ephraim Wolfe.



March 14, 1853, the congregation voted to extend a call to Rev. M. During, whose service was for a little more than a years duration. What the synod affiliations of During was, are not disclosed. The first notice we have of him after leaving the congregation is, that he was one of sixteen pastors who organized the Wartburg Synod in 1875, and of his name being dropped from the Synod roll in 1890. In this short period at St. Peter's only pastoral duties were recorded. By a letter, recently received, from Rev. R. B. Garten, D. D., Spokane, Washington, I am informed that Rev. Matthias During was ordained in 1849. About 1884 he became pastor of St. John's Lutheran Church, Mt. Pulaski, Illinois, and died there before 1891, and is buried there. Dr. Garten was secretary of the Wartburg Synod, 1900-1904.

At a congregational meeting held May 25, 1854, a call was voted and made to Rev. Isaac Hursh, whose synod affiliations at that time was not stated, however, we find later that he was a member of the English District Synod and that he was among the group of pastors who October 23, 1871, formed the Indiana Synod. (From: History of Indiana Synod) Both Pastor Hursh and his wife are buried at East Germantown, (Pershing P. O.) Indiana, located on Route # 40. He served Zions Church at that place for a number of years.

During the pastorate of Hursh a problem confronted the congregation regarding their cemetery, which, in 1859, was settled by an additional article or amendment to their constitution which provided that burials be restricted to church members only.

An entry on the pages of the old financial ledger dated, 1855, shows the purchase of a new pulpit cover, 5 yards @ .45¢ per yard, and a fringe for the cover, costing \$1.00 The completed cover cost them \$3.25

The primitive church of that day did not have a pulpit cover for each church season as we have today. Well do I remember, in my own home church, the pulpit cover with the gold fringe. That their church must be beautiful and yet be as a means to afford seclusion from the peering outside they purchased thirteen yards of window cover at a cost of \$2.00

Another entry dated August 16, 1856, lists an Order of Service book @ \$2.00 and a new stove at \$14.00 The Order of Service, probably, was the only one in the congregation and was for the pastors use, only.

After five years of faithful service Pastor Hursh resigned and in his place, his brother-in-law, Rev. John George Schaefer was called. Schaefer served the congregation to the year 1890, a little more than thirty years.

Again, in 1861, another cemetery question was settled by adding the second article to the constitution, providing for burials consecutively in rows and not in family burial lots. This rule was followed for awhile, but was later abandoned without record in the old church book. On visiting the old cemetery you will find many family lots today.

Rev. Schaefer, for many years, served his parish of several churches by riding horseback. Mrs. Anna Schmidt Breymire relates that at one of their joyous Christmas night programs at St. Peter's Church, the congregation presented him with a new saddle. At this Christmas time it was bitter cold and Pastor Schaefer nearly froze coming to the church. Schaefer in the later years of his ministry acquired a Phaeton buggy to make his pastoral calls.

The largest number of communicants partaking of the Lords Supper was in the year 1862.

April 20, 1862,	92 persons partook,	the offering was	\$4.22
November 2, 1862,	116 persons partook,	the offering was	5.58
Total	208	--	\$9.80

In 1867 a rebuilding or remodeling program was carried out with only the brief mention of the cost, stated thus; Umbau Kirche kostet \$423.80, translated (rebuilding or remodeling church cost) The subscription fund amounted to \$426.75 When completed they had a fund balance left of \$2.95 What changes were made, was not disclosed, but, must have been extensive. No record of the subscription list was made.

A page of the old journal with an entry dated 1878 reads; Jacob Agne, Glocken lauten \$5.00 Glocken, translated, means bell ringer. Lauten, means to ring. This five dollars was his pay for a year. In later years William Klipstine assumed the duties of "Glocken lauten!" Perhaps today we would call Mr. Agne and Klipstine the church sextons, and naturally, they would be expected to ring the bell.

When the bell and bell tower were placed on the church is a conjecture. It might have been a part of the remodeling done in 1867.

The congregation had a Sunday School, but its organization date is not known, and a complete list of the superintendents is not available. Christian Metzger is credited with being one of the first. Mrs. William Klipstine also served a period. Others to follow were; Henry Jacobi, L. C. Klipstine, Sarah Agne Schefel and August Praker who served the school at different periods previous to the year 1892. Beginning with the year 1892, another faithful, A. L. Klipstine led the school for three years. We are unable to tell you what year the school discontinued. In our historical files we have a lesson book used by the school, it is The Augsburg Sunday School Lesson Book for the last quarter of 1895, published by the Lutheran Publication Society, # 42 Ninth Street, Philadelphia, Penn.

In the old church journal, an entry in German, dated 1881, credits Albert Fiebiger with a gift of \$7.00 for Turm decken. Other receipts, without naming the donors, for the same purpose amounted to \$27.50, all totaled \$34.50. Another entry credits payment to Heinrich Horner for Turm decken, \$33.00. Translated, Turm would mean belfry, steeple or tower, and Decken is a cover or roof.

At numerous times we find the entry, Erntefest (Harvest Home Feast) with offerings from \$2.62 to \$3.26. This was a church festival date faithfully observed at St. Peter's Church.

Organists serving St. Peter's Church were; Catherine Schmidt Grow, Elizabeth Sheffel, Caroline Klipstine Worch, Dora Worch Hoke and the last one to serve, Alma Kelch Brewer. Mrs. Grow played the organ for twenty-six years. The organ, still in use today, was a reed organ.

Rev. John George Schaefer, ministered to the congregation at St. Peter's Lutheran Church from 1859 to 1890, being compelled to retire because of disabilities and illness after a service of more than thirty years at St. Peter's. Pastor Schaefer studied Theology at Capital University, Columbus, Ohio. It is noted that in school he mastered all the principal languages except Hebrew. He served churches in both Darke and Miami Counties. In Darke County, besides St. Peter's, he carried the Gospel to St. John's Lutheran Church at Brock, Ohio, St. Paul's at Willowdell and Trinity at Versailles, Ohio. The last three as a circuit riding pastor.

He was held in high esteem by the Evangelical Lutheran District Synod of Ohio, of which he was a member, for upon his death he is referred to as the venerable Father J. G. Schaefer. He was admitted to this synod from a sister synod in 1874. Upon his death in 1900, he was laid to rest at Covington, Ohio. Revs. J. G. Neiffer and Wm. Hall, conducted the services.

Pastor Schaefer in his long service ministered to them from infancy to adult and then old age. First, baptism in infancy, confirmation in their youth, and later the marriage. Many were the funerals he conducted, and, with his words of comfort, he was to them, indeed, "Rev. George Schaefer, the beloved pastor of St. Peter's."



The Church's one bequest came in 1882, when Christopher Metzker, a member of the congregation passed to his reward, leaving a will which was filed March 17, 1882, in the Probate Court of Darke County, Ohio. John H. Hile was named administrator. One directive of his will was a bequest of \$1,500.00, to St. Peter's Lutheran Church, where his wife is buried. The interest from this bequest to be used for church purpose only. This interest along with other offerings keeps the church property and cemetery in good repair.

It is interesting to note that the will also directs that one thousand dollars be given to nearest relatives in Germany. Among relatives named in this country are; Michael Metsker, Louise Shalehouse, Mary Herwig, Charles Masner and Peter Masner.

(Spelling of names are as on the Will Record.)  
Will Record, Book-D Page 200.

Upon his call to Trinity Lutheran Church at Versailles, Ohio, Rev. A. J. Reichert also assumed charge of St. Peter's Church, serving from 1890 to 1892.

That the congregation was reluctant to give up German preaching is expressed in a letter from Rev. A. J. Reichert to Trinity congregation December, 1905, from which we quote:

How well I recall the first Sunday in the parish. It was June 17, 1890. I preached in the morning at Trinity in the English language, in the afternoon at St. Peter's in the German language and at Friedens in the evening. The German sermon was the first I ever preached. How well do I remember the words of appreciation after the service and especially the ten dollar gold piece put in my hand by Mr. Wm. Klipstine, Sr., with a word of congratulation.

During his pastorate at St. Peter's, Rev. Reichert, in 1892, confirmed a class of four children; Bertha Seifert, Helen Shumaker, Henry Fisher and Otto Trittschuh. Two members of the class are now deceased, Helen Shumaker and Bertha Seifert.

We now come to a period when no record was kept at all, at least no entries were made in the regular record book. However, the activities of the congregation were again reported beginning in the year 1901.

During an interim of about nine years pastors from Trinity Lutheran Church at Versailles, Ohio, until the calling of Rev. Amos Poorman, supplied the congregation at St. Peter's, holding services at appointed times, but not regular every Sunday.

The year 1901 finds the congregation without a pastor, but by July of that year it was learned that Rev. Amos A. Poorman was available, and on July 29, 1901 the congregation extended a call to him which he accepted. He also served Zion Lutheran Church, at Wakefield, Ohio, at that time. Pastor Poorman could preach both in the English and German language equally well, and this proved very satisfactory. The German members were still reluctant to give up the German preaching.

Rev. Poorman served St. Peter's Church until July 29, 1905, a period of four years. After leaving he continued to serve Zion Church at Wakefield, giving his full time ministry to that congregation until July 4, 1917, when a stroke disabled him so much that he was compelled to retire from the ministry. He died at his home 423 South Hawthorne St., Dayton, Ohio, December 28, 1920, at the age of 74 years. He was buried in Woodland cemetery at Dayton, December 31, 1920.

At this time preaching in the English language at Trinity Lutheran Church at Versailles began to attract the younger people who could understand little or no German preaching at all. Better roads and means of travel all tended to weaken St. Peter's congregation.

After Pastor Poorman had terminated his services in July 1905, Rev. Jacob Wesner who was pastor of Trinity at Versailles, counseled with the small number of members remaining at St. Peter's advising and urged them to affiliate with the Versailles congregation. Before the close of his pastorate at Versailles in 1913, Rev. Wesner accomplished this transition in most part, only a small number remained steadfast and still claimed their membership at St. Peter's.

With the transfer of most of the membership to Trinity Lutheran Church, Versailles, Ohio, the problem of maintaining the church building and cemetery was solved by electing a church board from among the grand children and great grand children of the pioneer families who organized St. Peter's congregation in 1850. This Board composed of the following trustees, Harold Klipstine, William Agney, Orion Trittschuh, Harry Scheffel and Henry Fischer, provides one worship service each year. This annual service is usually conducted by Trinity congregation of Versailles, with their pastor preaching the sermon.

The old log Church in a good state of preservation is available for funerals at all times and is occasionally used. The cemetery beside it is still being used, with recent burials. The maintenance of the Church building and cemetery is financed by proceeds from the Metzker bequest fund, offerings taken at the annual services, which is usually very liberal, and gifts of labor and materials.

St. Peter's Congregation was not born out of a division of another congregation because of strife or discension, but because of a need for a church in a distinct new settlement.

Her passing was not complete, just a transition from an active Church to a Memorial, cherished today by the posterity of the German pioneer families who organized her, the community and the Lutherans of Darke County, Ohio.

"The Old Meetinghouse"

We love the venerable house  
Our fathers built to God;  
In heaven are kept their grateful vows,  
Their dust endears the sod.

Emerson.

And thou shall remember all the  
way which the Lord thy God led thee.

Deut. 8:2



St. Peter's  
Evangelical Lutheran Church  
near  
Webster, Ohio.

The following is a list of pastorates.

Rev. Philip Locker	1850-1853
Rev. M. During	1853-1854
Rev. Isaac Hursh	1854-1859
Rev. John George Schaefer	1859-1890
Rev. A. J. Reichert	1890-1892
Rev. W. F. Berger	Supply
Rev. J. A. Linn	Supply
Rev. Wm. Hall	Supply
Rev. Amos A. Poorman	1901-1905

Through the efforts of Rev. Jacob Wesner, pastor of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, at Versailles, most of St. Peter's congregation transferred their membership to Trinity.

## St. Peter's Evang. Lutheran Church.

## Names found on the old record book.

Fredrich Traugott Bernhold Droscha  
 Johann Lowig - (Labig)  
 George Lowig  
 Adolph Trittschuh  
 George F. Scheffel  
 F. Robert Blume  
 Conrad Agne  
 Fridrich Traugott Seibt  
 John Adam Kleinschmitt  
 Fridrich Christoph Hach - (Haach)  
 Fridrich Wilhelm Fiebiger  
 George Fridrich Rohr  
 Adolph Christoph Stiefel  
 John Adam Klipstine  
 Conrad Grenold  
 Johan Christian Hecht  
 Johan Heil - (Hile)  
 Adam Heil  
 Louis Klay  
 F. Nicholas Kellig - (Kelch)  
 Karl Peschke  
 Herman Seifert  
 Johann Probst  
 Wilhelm Klipstine  
 Christoph Metzger  
 Wilhelm Trittschuh  
 George Martin  
 Johann Adam Kelch  
 Ephraim Wolf  
 Johan Sebastian Fischer  
 Heinrich C. Flaachs  
 Fredrich Trittschuh  
 J. Heinrich Fischer  
 Christoph Schelhaus  
 Jacob Schelhaus  
 Henry Simon  
 George Apel  
 Wilhelm Ilgen  
 Lewis Frobe  
 Benjamin Kieser  
 Solomon Appel  
 Phillip Schmidt  
 Berthold Engelken

James Young  
 Ena Bird  
 Leonara Hartung  
 Lewis Fiebiger  
 August Praker  
 C. W. Nickol  
 Henry Marold  
 Henry Jacobi  
 Peter Masner

## Expense enteries for the year 1850.

White Lead	1 keg	\$2.25
John Bigham	Labor	1.20
Bellenger	Labor-Broadax	.75
8 # nails	---	.56
Carpenter bill	---	38.12 $\frac{1}{2}$
For board etc.	---	3.00
2 quarts oil	---	.50
Line	---	2.50
Window glass	---	3.75
11 # putty	---	2.12 $\frac{1}{2}$
Wine for Communion	---	.37 $\frac{1}{2}$
Joseph Wolf	boards -(gift)	7.00
F. Rohr	boards -(gift)	11.75
Brick	---	2.52 $\frac{1}{2}$
2 Thimbles for chimney -		.37 $\frac{1}{2}$
Stove pipe	---	4.38
Stove	---	6.50
10 # nails	---	.80
13 # Bolts and screws		.81
		\$92.70

Total receipts for the year -- \$97.68

The receipts were not itemized and did not give from what source they were received.



From the Sunday School record book of,  
St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church, 1888-1889.

July 1, 1888.

Officers and Teachers.

L. C. Klipstine, Supt.  
A. F. Prakel, Asst. Supt.  
Sarah A. Agney, Secretary  
W. F. Klipstine, Treasurer

Teachers:- Ida Seifert, August Prakel, David Schaffer,  
Bertha Kelch, Elizabeth McCrea, Amelia Kleinsmith and  
Sarah McCrea.

Class Roll.

Class # 1 (Ida Seifert)

Henry Fisher  
Ora Hile  
Pursey Klipstine  
David Petersime  
Manuel Hile  
Albert Kelch  
Charley McCrea  
Marion Minser  
Willie Petersime  
Willie Agney

Class # 3 (David Schaffer)

Henry Fisher  
Henry Hile  
Will Kelch  
E. C. Sproat  
John Petersime  
Henry Peschke  
Mat Fisher  
Homer Sproat

Class # 5 (Elizabeth McCrea)

Jennie Byrd  
Delia Byrd  
Katy Scheffel  
Luly Seifert  
Ida Seibt  
Hettie Seibt  
Nella Seibt  
Martha Fisher  
Emma Hile  
Vina Hile  
Helen Agney  
Ida Fisher  
Helen Haack  
Bertha Trittschuh

Class # 7 (Sarah McCrea)

Mary Peschke  
Eva Peschke  
Emma Hole

Class # 2 (August Prakel)

Wm. Fisher  
W. F. Klipstine  
Levi Hole  
John A. Fisher  
Freelin Schaffer  
Alfred Haack  
Wm. Haack  
August Ellis

Class # 4 (Bertha Kelch)

Carlie Kelch  
Louis Frobe  
Callie Frobe  
Joseph Petersime  
Artie Klipstine  
Charley Hile  
Alma Kelch  
Godlove Bang  
Bertha Peschke  
Lizzie Agney  
Lucy Byrd  
Carrie Ilgen  
Annie Ilgen

Class # 6 (Amelia Kleinsmith)

Callie Fisher  
Mary Fisher  
Emma Fisher  
Gertie Apple  
Martha Hile  
Clara Seifert  
Anna Scheffel

Etta Kinney

Anna Hile

Amelia Trittschuh

Lydia Petersime.

CHRISTMAS -- -- December 1888.

Treasurer's report of Christmas entertainment as accepted by the St. Peter's Sabbath School.

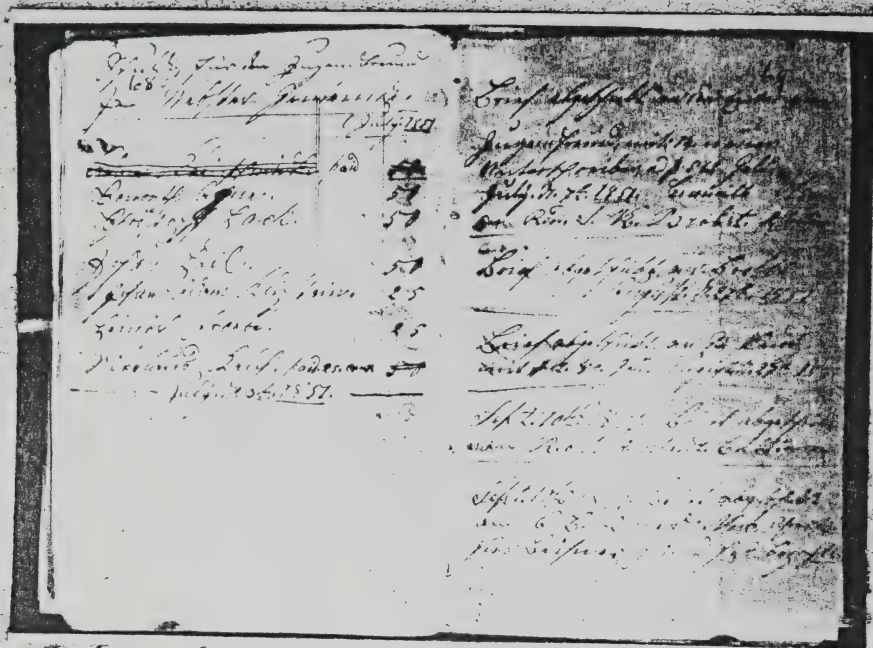
Total amount collected \$29.80

Money expended by the different committees:

Committee on preparation				\$ 1.42
L. C. Klipstine, for programs				1.05
Committee on tree	--	--		.25
Purchasing Comm., book for class # 1-4-5				9.50
Wax candles	--	--		.50
One present of two vases	--	--	--	2.00
Candies of H. & F.	--	--		6.25
Oranges of P. Subler	--	--		2.00
One book of J. G. Sterlie	--	--	--	.25
Candle holders	--	--		.50
One book of A. Frankman	--	--	--	.35
Present to Rev. Berger	--	--		5.00
				<u>\$29.07</u>
Collected		\$29.80		
Expended		<u>29.07</u>		
Balance		.73		

note:

Candies of H. & F. --(Hawk and Fahnestock, Versailles, Ohio.  
 J. G. Sterlie, Druggist Versailles, Ohio.  
 A. Frankman, Druggist Versailles, Ohio.  
 Rev. Berger, Pastor of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church,  
 Versailles, Ohio.



Photograph of page 68 from  
Rev. Philip Locker's personal pastoral record  
Translated

Owing for the Youth Friend,  
From Webster Congregation.  
July 1851.

Adam Kleinschmidt	paid	.50¢
Conrath Agne		.50¢
Christoph Hack		.50¢
Johan Heil		.50¢
Johan Adam Klipstein		.25¢
Heinrich Froebe		.25¢
Nicholas Kelch	paid	.25¢

July 3, 1851



MEET  
the pastors  
who once served  
St. Peter's Evangelical  
Lutheran Church

Near  
Webster, Ohio.

---

Rev. Philip Locker.

Born September 9, 1811 \*\*\* Died May 3, 1881.

Member of the Miami Synod of the General Synod.

Served Darke County Churches:

St. John's Lutheran, near Brock, Ohio. (Indian Creek) 1848-1856.  
 Zion Lutheran, near Childrens Home, Wakefield, Ohio, 1848-1856.  
 St. Peter's Lutheran Church, north east of Webster, O. 1850-1853.  
 St. Paul's Lutheran, Greenville, Ohio, 1850-1852.  
 Paulus Congregation, (St. Paul's) at Beamsville, Ohio, 1848-1856.  
 Trinity Lutheran, Union City, Ind,, 1856.

In Synod Convention, May 8, 1846, conveyed in Tarlton, Pickaway County, Ohio, he served on the resolution committee with Ezra Keller and Eli Detwiler. May 13, 1846, led Synod in prayer.

Synod Convention 1847, held in Germantown, Ohio.  
 The Synod directs Rev. Locker to visit Brown County, Ohio, where a German congregation offers \$300.00 for a pastor to come and live in their midst. He had a Dayton, Ohio address during 1847.

In the year 1848 we find him in Darke County, Ohio, with his address listed Greenville, Ohio.  
 Synod minutes comments thus; Locker having withdrawn from the services of the American Tract Society, has taken congregations in the vicinity of Greenville, Ohio. Three congregations and five preaching places.

Synod minutes of 1849 carries his name as an ordained pastor on the synodical record. Previous years he was listed as a licentiate pastor. The year 1849 he served on the boundaries committee. His lay delegate to the synod was John H. C. Dill. Mr. Dill was a merchant at Beamsville, Ohio, and was a member of the Paulus Congregation (St. Paul's) at Beamsville. In later years the Dill family were members of Zions congregation at Wakefield, Ohio.

1850, he reports to Synod as follows: Served four congregations and two preaching stations. During the year he baptised 26 infants; confirmed 6; had 180 communicants; three deaths. Had two Sunday Schools with 50 scholars and one prayer meeting.  
 Financial: \$1.00 Synod; \$4.00 Education; \$3.00 Home Missions; \$2.00 Foreign Missions.  
 He was a delegate that year to the West District Synod. (German)

The files of the Miami Synod lacks the minutes of 1851, therefore we have no report of his activities for that year.

1852, Rev. Locker reports Mr. Dill of the Paulus Congregation at Beamsville again as a delegate to the Synod Convention. Mr. Dill represented Pastor Locker's large Darke County, parish.

(Rev. Philip Locker on his personal record book always referred to the church near Brock as the Indian Creek Congregation.)  
 Later known as St. John's Lutheran Church.

For the years 1853-1854-1855-1856, he reports serving three congregations in Darke County, Ohio.

November 1, 1847, Rev. Philip Locker bought a four acre tract of land in section 13, Greenville Township, listed as lot # 3 from David Diefenbaugh and was a resident of Clapboard Town (Wakefield) for about ten years. He sold this home October 14, 1857, to Frederick Ehrmann. This tract is now a part of of the land now owned by Lewis Sproat.

August 17, 1952, interviewed J. Wesley Meyer and his wife at New Corydon, Indiana, and also visited State Line Lutheran cemetery, two miles east and three miles south of New Corydon, Indiana.

Dates taken from grave markers:

Rev. Philip Locker, born September 8, 1811 and died May 3, 1881. Age 69 years 7 months 24 days.

Martha E., his wife was born February 26, 1817 and died August 11, 1894. Age 77 years 5 months and 15 days.

Both are buried in the State Line Lutheran Cemetery. Church now torn down and only the cemetery remains.

A son, David, was a harness maker and had a shop in New Corydon, Indiana. David was a diligent church worker and helped to organize Zion Lutheran Church in New Corydon in 1881. He owned and lived in property across the street from the church. He planted the trees that now stand so stately in the church yard.

Two daughters married Fennig brothers and another daughter married an **uncle** to the brothers. They are all deceased and are buried in the State Line Lutheran Cemetery.

Dates from the grave markers:

Anna E. Locker Fennig,	1858-1931	husband	Henry J. Fennig.	} Brothers
Sarah Locker Fennig,	1852-1914	"	George Fennig.	
Louise Locker Fennig,	1841-1925	"	Philip Fennig.	

— Uncle

Pastor Locker and his wife Martha E. had a family of twelve children. They owned and lived on their farm located three miles north of the State Line Lutheran Cemetery, in Mercer County, Ohio.



Churches served by Rev. Philip Locker while he was a resident of Darke County, Ohio. The churches were all located in the county.

Rev. Locker bought a home and moved to Clapboard Town, (now Wakefield) in the year 1847. The following year, 1848, Zion Lutheran Church was organized in this little hamlet, located near the Darke County Childrens Home, three miles north of Greenville, Ohio, on highway # 127. The original building was of logs with dirt floor and split slabs for seats, and was dedicated October, 1848. Since Rev. Locker lived only a few rods from this church site, he must have done much to guide the new congregation in its infant years. That his job was well done, speaks for itself today. If you would visit this church today you will find a small, but beautiful, ivy covered, brick church, with a modern parsonage beside it. The congregation is small, but financially able to support a full time pastor and does not share their pastor with any other congregation. This church is a member of the Ohio Synod, ULCA. Printed minutes of the Miami Synod, on file in the library at Wittenberg College, Springfield, Ohio, give evidence that Rev. Locker served this, his home church, most of the time he lived in Darke County, Ohio.

St. John's Lutheran Church, located about one mile south of Brock, Ohio, was also served by Pastor Locker. He preached in the old log church, built in 1848. It had a seating capacity of about 100. In all probability it was built and dedicated under his guidance. Eight years later, 1856, the log church was replaced with a more adequate and imposing frame church building. In the absence of any church records, we are unable to say how many years he ministered to the St. John's congregation. However, with all the research we have made, we are willing to speculate that it was, as at Zion, Wakefield, most of the time he lived in Darke County, Ohio. After 1878 no regular services were held in this church. About thirty years ago the church was dismantled and the material was used to build a cemetery tool shed. All that remains of this Lutheran Church is the cemetery with more than six hundred burials. Two notables, Annie Oakley the renown lady rifle shot and her husband, Frank Butler, sleep in this beautiful city of the dead. In his personal record, kept by Rev. Locker, he refers to this church as his Indian Creek congregation.

On March 10, 1850, St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church was organized, and a log church was built. This church was located about two miles south east of Versailles, Ohio. Rev. Philip Locker was the first called pastor, serving them until March 1853. The old log church, in a good state of preservation, still stands. One service each year is held in it with good attendance. Occasionally a funeral service is held there. The cemetery beside it is still being used, with recent burials.

Many of the grand children and great grand-children of the pioneer German families who organized St. Peter's Church in 1850, are now members of Lutheran churches elsewhere, especially, Friedens, Bloomer, located about three and one half miles east, just across the Miami County line, and Trinity Lutheran Church, at Versailles, Ohio. It is through their efforts and influence that St. Peter's Church and cemetery is well kept, and in their hearts, a memorial to their ancestors.

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Greenville, Ohio. This congregation was organized in 1850, and worship in the homes of the members for quite a number of years. Civil history tells us that some of their meetings were held in the Darke County Court House. Rev. Philip Locker was the first pastor to minister to this congregation, serving them about two years, 1850-1852. What part Pastor Locker had in the organization of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Greenville, Ohio, is not known, but the fact that he was the first pastor, surely, would indicate that his influence and encouragement inspired the first members of this congregation in their efforts to plant this church which has grown to be the largest Lutheran Church in the county.

From Rev. Philip Locker's old record book we learn that he ministered to a (for that period) sizable Lutheran congregation at Beamsville, Ohio. The record does not reveal, but we are led to believe that it was Pastor Locker who organized them into a congregation and served them all during his pastorate in Darke County, Ohio. After Rev. Locker removed to Indiana from the parish here, the charge was taken over by Rev. Alexander Klefeker who served them until his death, February 26, 1863. No evidence can be found that the Lutherans ever owned property at Beamsville. They probably used the log church built by the United Brethren people in 1842. It is believed that the Christian denomination used it for a number of years also. When the Beamsville congregation disbanded is not known.

Although there are no old church records available, yet, after diligent study of other records we are led to believe, and, without much question that, Rev. Locker, during his pastorate in Darke County, Ohio, might have included at different times in his parish, for occasional services, the following Lutheran Churches.

St. John's Lutheran Church, located in German (now Liberty) Township. Organized in 1826, remained Lutheran for forty years. In 1866 the Lutherans merged with the German Reformed congregation.

Zion Lutheran Church, German (now Liberty) Township, organized in 1830. The Lutherans, 26 years later, surrendered their part ownership of the church property to the German Reformed Congregation, who owned the church property with them, jointly. A quit claim deed was made in 1856.

Zion Lutheran Church, south of Gettysburg, Ohio, organized in 1834. The congregation moved the church building to Gettysburg, Ohio, in 1891. Discord and financial difficulty caused them to sell the church property and disband in 1898.

Emmanuel--Washington Township (later Dininger) Lutheran Church, west of Greenville, Ohio. This congregation organized in 1839, and disbanded in 1906. The few members left affiliated with other Lutheran churches in and near Greenville, Ohio.

During this early period of church history there were preaching stations located at Stillwater, Dawn and the Beach, and possibly a number of others not known today. Although not naming the preaching places or stations in his synodical reports, we believe they are the ones reported.

That Rev. Locker done much for Lutheranism in Darke County, Ohio, is, without question. His was a period, of planting and nurturing, most difficult.

Always on horseback with his saddle bags, this traveling preacher, went to those who needed him, and brought the gospel to the scattered churches and preaching places in Darke County.

He planted and nurtured, and kept the candle of the Lord burning until others arrived, and for this, we are, indeed, grateful.



Rev. Matthias During.

Born October 6, 1812, at Cottbus, Prussia, Germany.

Died March 14, 1890, of heart disease, at Mt. Pulaski, Illinois.  
Buried there also.

At death was a member of the Wartburg Synod.

Ordained and entered the ministry in 1849.

Served St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church, (near Webster)  
south east of Versailles, Ohio, 1853-1854.

He was one of sixteen pastors who organized the Wartburg Synod  
of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, August 27, 1876.

(Page 17, History of the Wartburg Synod.)  
Listed; M. During, Ackley, Iowa.

Was pastor of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, at  
Mt. Pulaski, Illinois, 1881-1889.

Resigned January 1, 1889 on account of age.  
Served in the Ministry forty (40) years.

Married twice, had several children by first wife.

Married second wife, Mrs. Amelia Fack, July 26, 1881, in  
Springfield, Illinois.

Information source: Rev. R. B. Garten, D. D.  
5421 Post Road,  
Spokane, Washington.

Dr. Garten was Secretary of the Wartburg Synod, 1900-1904.

ALSO

Mrs. Emma Drobisch, Mt. Pulaski, Illinois.

Mrs. Drobisch was a step granddaughter of Rev. During.

Lutheran Almanac.

\*\*\*\*\*

I have letters from both Dr. Garten and Mrs. Drobisch,  
in my historical files.

*Lewis Grote*  
Lewis Grote.

Note from the English District Synod

The Minutes of 1875, page 7, record: "Rev. I. Hursh, of the Indiana Synod, having been called to Versailles, Darke County, Ohio, was installed by myself (President G. W. Mechling) and Bro. Schaefer (Rev. George Schaefer) in November (1874). He will connect himself with this synod."

His address was Versailles until 1878.

Before Sept. 1879, he had moved to Indiana. Versailles was vacant.

On leaving St. Peter's in 1859, we find the English District Synod, listing his next address at, East Germantown, Indiana.

Rev. John George Schaefer.

From;- History of Miami County, Ohio, 1880.  
Date from grave stone and History of  
Evang. Lutheran District Synod of Ohio.

Rev. John George Schaefer, minister, Piqua, Ohio, born in Maryland, 1826; is a son of George Schaefer, deceased. Pastor Schaefer was raised on a farm, and when 19 years of age went to attend Capital University at Columbus, Ohio, to prepare for the ministry; he received a thorough course and mastered all the principal languages except Hebrew.

Immediately after he received his degree, he was ordained a minister of the Lutheran Church, and has always been engaged in the cause. He has had charge of St. Peter's Lutheran Church, near Webster, Ohio, for the last 20 years.

He married Miss. Elizabeth Shick of Logan County, Ohio. They had six children; Mary C., living in Toledo, Ohio; H. N., living in Shelby County; John W., Martin L., Matilda and Maria L.

Miss. Sarah E., sister of Pastor Schaefer married Henry W. Routson, March 22, 1873.

Rev. Schaefer passed to his reward, December 31, 1900.

The Forty-fifth Convention of the Evang. Lutheran District Synod of Ohio, held in Bakersville, Ohio, June 6-9, 1901, announced the death of venerable Father J. G. Schaefer. This dear Father had studied Theology in Columbus, Ohio; and, after his ordination, served congregations in Miami County as long as his strength permitted it. But for some years before his death he was disabled to such an extent that he was compelled to dispense with performing all ministerial duties. The Revs. J. G. Neiffer and Wm. Hall buried him at Covington, Ohio.

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Eighteenth Convention, 1874 held in Germantown, Ohio,  
Rev. J. P. Hentz, Pastor.  
At this meeting Rev. J. G. Schaefer was admitted to Synod membership after dismissal from sister synod.

\*\*\* \*\* \*

Rev. Schaefer served St. Peter's Church for more than thirty years.



# Rev. Isaac Hursh.

Born March 9, 1819

Died March 1, 1897.

Preached in homes of the settlers around Brock, Ohio, as early as 1842 and later in their St. John's Lutheran Church south of Brock.

Rev. Isaac Hursh conducted the first Lutheran services in Versailles about the year 1856. He at that time lived near ~~Bloomer~~ Bloomer, in Miami County, Ohio, and had charge of the Evangelical Lutheran Church at Stillwater. (Friedens Church.)

From 1854 to 1859, a period of five years, he served St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church, near Webster, Ohio.

Pastor Hursh at one time served congregations in Illinois, St. James and St. John's churches at Claremont, Illinois.

Rev. Isaac Hursh was a member of the English Evangelical District Synod. At a convention held in Zions Evangelical Lutheran Church, East Germantown, (Pershing P. O.) Indiana, he was among a group of pastors and laymen who formed or organized the Indiana Synod, October 23, 1871, (page 42, "Lutheranism at the Crossroads of America." By C. R. Defenderer.) Later the Chicago Synod. He served Zions Lutheran Church at East Germantown for a number of years.

Both Pastor Hursh and his wife Elizabeth, who was a sister of Rev. John George Schaefer, are buried at East Germantown, (Pershing P. O. Indiana, located west of Richmond, Indiana, on Route # 40.

His son, Rev. John G. M. Hursh was ordained to the Gospel Ministry September 27, 1874, by the Indiana Synod.

Civil history of Darke County, Ohio, tells us that Pastor Hursh, in the fall of 1878, removed to the State of Illinois. It is quite possible that he served Versailles Lutherans until that date. In the absence of old church records the statement is only speculative.

History of the Evangelical Lutheran District Synod of Ohio.

Meeting August 2-7, 1876, Rev. I. Hursh of Versailles, Ohio, admitted to membership in this Synod.

## The Versailles Leader

December 1, 1915.

Rev. A. J. Reichert, 1890-1892.

Rev. A. J. Reichert, one of the living ex-pastors of Trinity Church, writes as follows concerning his associations in Versailles: " The two years in the Versailles parish are full of pleasant memories. Young and inexperienced I entered upon the work with fear and trembling. How well I recall the first Sunday in the parish. It was June 17, 1890. I preached in the morning at Trinity in the English language, in the afternoon at St. Peters in the German language and at Friedens in the evening. The German sermon was the first I had ever preached. How well do I remember the words of appreciation after the service and especially the ten dollar gold piece put in my hand by Mr. William Klipstine Sr. with a word of congratulation. Mr. Prakesel will recall my efforts as choir master. He was Supt. of Sunday School and rendered excellent service in every way.

In the fall of 1890 my marriage took place to Miss. Irene Leet and we resided in a house on the north side just vacated by Mr. Geo. Worch. We shall never forget the kindness extended to us by the good people of the parish the Kleinschmidts, Frankmans, Klipstines, Worchs, Kelchs, Prakesels etc. we can not forget; they were staunch, loyal and true friends.

During these two years, the parish prospered. We were gaining strength numerically and spiritually. A good feeling had been fostered between the two congregations now after 25 years, I rejoice that a new church is to take place of the old. That Trinity has become a strong factor for good in the town and in the church; and that in the future greater things will be in store for her.

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In May 1891, this Synod held its Thirty-fifth Convention in Germantown, Ohio-- Rev. A. F. Seibert, Pastor. Upon dismissal from other Synod of the General Council Rev. A. J. Reichert, Doylestown, Ohio, was admitted to the Evang. Lutheran District Synod of Ohio.

In May, 1894, the Thirty-eight Convention of this Synod was held in Zion's Church, Doylestown, Ohio-- Rev. A. J. Reichert, Pastor.

The Forty-third Convention of this Synod was held in Trinity Church, Loyal Oak-- Rev. E. L. T. Enders, Pastor June 1-5, 1899. Rev. A. J. Reichert dismissed to the Chicago Synod.

1899-- Rev. A. J. Reichert, pastor of Mulberry parish, began work in Lafayette, Indiana. 1899 organized Zion's.  
1899-1901 Chicago Synod.

Dr. Albert J. Reichert.

Dr. Albert J. Reichert, retired pastor of the Ministerium of Pennsylvania, died in a Lititz, Pa., nursing home Feb. 5th. He was 87.

Born in Utica, N. Y., Dec. 3, 1865, he was graduated from Thiel College and Philadelphia Seminary. Following his ordination by the New York Synod, he served pastorates in Versailles and Doylestown, Ohio; Mulberry and Lafayette, Indiana; Red Wing, Minn.; and Lancaster, Pa.

For a time he served as superintendent of missions for the Chicago Synod, as professor at Norwegian Seminary in Minn., was president of the Northwest Synod for six years and was field secretary for the National Lutheran Council at the close of World War I.

He was a member of the Common Service Book committee from 1913 through 1917 and received his honorary doctors degree from Thiel College in 1928.

Surviving are a son, Frederick L. Reichert, of San Francisco, Calif.; a daughter, Mrs. J. Shober Barr, of Lancaster, Pa.; two sisters, Mrs. Arthur G. Miller and Mrs. Louise Swanson, of Utica, N. Y.

The funeral service# was conducted Feb. 8th in Christ Church, Lancaster, Pa., by Pastors Alfred Long and Myrom A. Eichner. Interment followed in Lancaster.

Rev. Amos A. Poorman.

Rev. Poorman was born April 9, 1846, in Ohio.

He entered Capital University, Columbus, Ohio, and graduated from the Theological Seminary located there. Following his graduation he was ordained to the Lutheran Ministry. Pastor Poorman became a member of the English District of the Joint Synod of Ohio. This fact was mentioned in minutes of convention held at Lima, Ohio, August 1869.

Rev. Poorman in his early ministry spent two years at St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church, Youngstown, Pennsylvania, 1869-1871. (From Memorial History of the Pittsburgh Synod, page 669.)

He served St. Andrew Evangelical Lutheran Church, Farmersville, Ohio, 1871-1889. (From "Centennial History" published by, St. Andrew's Church for celebration 1950.) ~~Preble County~~

16th Convention of the Evangelical Lutheran District Synod of Ohio, held in Zanesville, Ohio, August 15-20, 1872, Rev. Amos A. Poorman was admitted to synod. He transferred from the Joint Synod of Ohio.

On January 1, 1872, Pastor Poorman presided at a meeting to organize St. John's Lutheran Congregation of Enterprise, Lanier Township, Preble County, Ohio, and served as pastor two periods, 1872-1873, and from June 20, 1880 to the fall of 1889. He also preached at Ellerton, Salem and Slifers, dates not known.

In Darke County, Ohio, he served St. Peter's Lutheran Church near Webster, Ohio, 1901-1905, and Zion Lutheran Church, three miles north of Greenville, Ohio, 1901-1917. Zion is near the Darke County Childrens Home.

While serving Zion Lutheran Church he suffered a stroke July 4th 1917, which so disabled him to the extent that he was compelled to retire from the ministry. His last pastoral service at Zion Church was the marriage of Miss. Mary Rehmert and Ishmael Taylor, July 2, 1917, at the home of the brides parents, Chas. A. and Anna Rehmert.

Rev. Amos A. Poorman passed to his reward December 28, 1920 at his home, 423 South ~~W~~ Hawthorne St., Dayton, Ohio. He was laid to rest December 31, 1920, in Woodland Cemetery, Dayton, Ohio.

Rev. Poorman received for his first years salary at St. Peter's \$100.00, and for the balance of his pastorate years there he received \$150.00 per year.





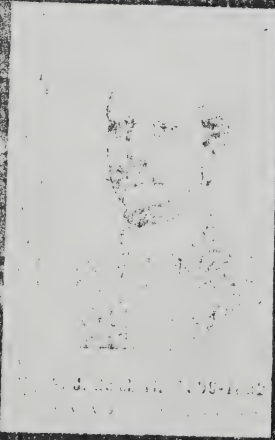
REV. ISAAK HURSH

*Rev. Isaak Hursh*

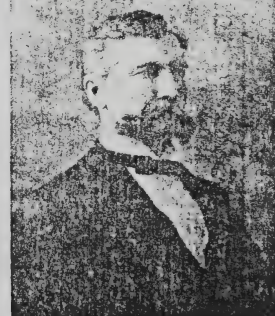


*Rev. J. H. Schaefer*

*Rev. J. H. Schaefer*



*Rev. A. J. Reichert*



*Rev. Amos Poorman*

*Rev. Amos Poorman*













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